

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy

High School Guide and Course Catalogue

Academic Year 2010-2011

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PHILOSOPHY

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy is committed to the philosophy of educating the whole person through the formation of the will, the intellect and the character in the light of the Catholic faith. Each student is seen as a precious gift from God whose eternal goal is Heaven. We direct all of our actions to the greater glory of God, and to training our students to recognize and follow His will in a challenging academic environment rooted in the classical liberal arts tradition. This type of education exposes students to the good, the true and the beautiful, and is designed to form individuals free from the political agendas and opinions of others, free to make correct judgments and decisions based on objective truth and proper conscience formation.

MISSION

To Jesus through Mary, we aim to form saints and leaders rooted in the immutable truths of the Catholic faith, appreciative of their Western heritage and religious traditions, in particular the extraordinary form of the Mass and the ancient sacred music of the Church, and inspired to bear witness to others of the hope that is within them. We challenge each student to pursue perfection in holiness and excellence in academics as we strive to rebuild the culture through truth, faith and service.

GOAL

We strive to produce the “true Christian... the supernatural man who thinks and acts constantly and consistently in accordance with right reason illumined by the supernatural light of the example and teaching of Christ” (Pope Pius XI, *Christian Education of Youth*). The goal of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy is to lead students to a knowledge and love of God. We direct all our actions toward the honor and glory of God through the teachings of the Catholic Church.

OBJECTIVES

We shall consider the objectives of the Academy first as a school with a Catholic philosophy, second as a school teaching students in the primary and secondary levels of education and third as a school forming citizens of the United States.

***As a school with a Catholic philosophy, the Academy has the following objectives:

1. To develop in our students a profound understanding of the Catholic faith, and a deep knowledge and love of God;
2. To encourage them to grow in personal holiness by developing and practicing a life of prayer, by receiving the sacraments frequently and devoutly and by modeling their lives on those of Christ, His Blessed Mother and the saints;
3. To foster an unwavering loyalty and devotion to the Holy See and the teaching of the Magisterium of the Church;
4. To help them to grow in understanding and appreciation of the liturgical and cultural traditions of the Catholic Church;
5. To promote the dignity of human life from conception to natural death through a decidedly pro-life culture and activities;
6. To provide the intellectual and moral weapons our students need in order to go out into our secular, materialistic society and transform the culture of relativism and death into a culture of truth and life;

7. To foster refinement in the students' manners, speech and dress in accordance with Catholic ideals, and to lead them, in accordance with their Catholic heritage, to select and promote only what is good and wholesome in art, music, drama and other forms of entertainment;
8. To encourage them to develop as leaders, especially as moral and religious leaders, through the personalization of and commitment to truth, and the application of Christian principles to personal conduct and public life.

***As a school teaching the primary and secondary levels of education, the Academy has the following objectives:

1. To teach students to think intelligently, critically and wisely;
2. To teach students to express themselves confidently, with clarity and competence;
3. To develop habits of orderly thinking through the medium of an analytic study of a language, particularly the Latin language;
4. To promote character by insisting upon responsible application to study and submission to intellectual and moral discipline;
5. To promote an intelligent appreciation of beauty;
6. To promote physical health as part of a well-rounded education;
7. To promote proper social attitudes and habits that reflect a truly Catholic attitude toward life.

***As a school forming citizens of America, the Academy has the following objectives:

1. In general, to develop a knowledge and appreciation of our American heritage as a republican form of government, and to foster loyalty to American ideals;
2. In particular, it seeks to develop students
 - Who appreciate the fact that America was founded on the sound principle that man has received from God inalienable rights which the state has not given and cannot take away;
 - Who insist that the American government exists for the benefit of individual citizens, and not the citizens for the benefit of the state;
 - Who will participate actively and conscientiously in the government of our country whether as voters or as officials;
 - Who will contribute to the formation of wise public policies and to the solution of public problems;
 - Who understand their responsibility to promote the general welfare, realizing the effect of their actions upon the lives of others;
 - Who dedicate their lives to advancing the social reign of Christ the King.

NON-DISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart admits students of any race, color and national or ethnic origin to all the rights, privileges, programs and activities generally accorded or made available to students at the school. It does not discriminate on the basis of race, color or national or ethnic origin in administration of its educational policies, or in athletic or other school-administered programs. It is open to all Catholic students, and to those open to converting to the Catholic faith.

FACULTY

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy is unique in that we require all full-time faculty to be devoted Catholics who adhere to the unchanging doctrines and moral teachings of the Roman Catholic Church. Each member of the staff signs an oath of fidelity to the Magisterium and a profession of faith to the Catholic Church. Our teachers exhibit great virtue in a spirit of humility that provides a rich example to our students and to each other. Our qualified, experienced faculty hold degrees from institutions such as Yale College, University of Wisconsin, Franciscan University of Steubenville, and Rockford College.

ACCREDITATION AND RECOGNITION

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy is recognized by the Illinois State Board of Education, and is accredited by the National Association of Private Catholic and Independent Schools (NAPC*IS), of which Archbishop Raymond L. Burke is the ecclesiastical adviser. OLSHA is also fully accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), a division of Advanced.

In 2006, the Acton Institute named Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy one of the Top Fifty Catholic High Schools in the nation.

In 2009, Elizabeth Altham, one of our junior- and senior-high teachers, received the Salvatori Award for Excellence in Teaching. This award is presented by Hillsdale College each year to recognize teachers and schools that provide a superior liberal arts education. The Academy received national recognition and \$25,000 as a part of the award.

CAREER PLANNING AND CURRICULUM OVERVIEW

The high school of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy offers a liberal arts, college-preparatory education, and most courses are taught at the honors or *advanced level. Students are required to take four years of theology, which includes instruction in Thomistic philosophy and the reading of papal encyclicals; four years of literature and composition (these include instruction in grammar, vocabulary and rhetoric); four years of history (these courses are taught from a Catholic perspective with the Incarnation as the focal point, and include one year of advanced U.S. government, politics and economics). Science courses include biology, chemistry, physics and advanced biology, chemistry or physics. Algebra I, geometry, algebra II and trigonometry, pre-calculus and calculus comprise the math program. Students may choose to limit math and science to three years instead of four; Latin I is required for all students, and students may choose to take four years of Latin; Spanish, French and German are available for modern language study. All students participate in physical education and choir, and they are required to take one semester each of keyboarding and document processing, health and consumer education. Exceptions to these requirements may be made for transfer students.

Careful study of the history and literature of the West through concurrent and coordinated classes fortifies students' faith and the Catholic teachings studied in theology courses. Students are introduced to the foundational thought and timeless truths (not values) of Western civilization, and they read the same works that formed the saints and instructed our founding fathers. Authors studied from the ancient/medieval course through the British literature course include Plato, Cicero, Homer, Livy, Herodotus, Sophocles, Ambrose, Augustine, Bede, Benedict, Aquinas, Dante, Shakespeare, Corneille, Goethe, Lewis, Belloc and Chesterton.

*AP courses in U.S. government and politics, U.S. history, English language and composition, English literature and composition; biology, chemistry, physics; Latin and Spanish; and AB and BC calculus are available. Not all courses are offered each year.

The broad base of knowledge and the properly-formed conscience acquired through this curriculum develop well-educated students prepared to judge all things in light of the eternal verities, and it prepares them to become leaders worthy of the legacy of the Judeo-Christian faith and Greco-Roman culture, which finds its clearest expression in the American experiment of self-government under law.

The entire program is designed to fulfill our mission; to form students to become future leaders and saints; to prepare them for academic success in college; to meet our objectives as an American secondary school with a Catholic philosophy; and to achieve our goal, which is the end of all true education: to lead students to a knowledge and love of God.

While the Academy provides college guidance and standardized career testing to help students determine their individual aptitudes and abilities, we do encourage all students to attend a traditional liberal arts college, and preferably a truly Catholic one.

COLLEGE ADMISSIONS AND PREPARATION

Individual colleges have specific admission requirements. In general, acceptance at most colleges is based upon college entrance tests such as the American College Test (ACT) or the Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT), class rank, high school grades and the subjects taken in high school. The following subjects have been established by the State of Illinois Board of Education as the minimum required for entrance into Illinois public colleges, with some variations for individual programs, and/or universities.

- English - 4 years (emphasizing written and oral communications and literature)
- Social studies - 3 years (emphasizing history and government)

- Math - 3 years (to include Algebra I, geometry, Algebra 2, college algebra or pre-calculus)
- Science - 3 years (emphasizing biology, chemistry and physics)
- Foreign Language, Music or Art - 2 years

In addition to basic entrance requirements, colleges also take into consideration personal qualifications such as participation in sports, clubs and service activities; leadership and character; whether or not application papers are sent in on time; and the rigor of the secondary curriculum. **In fact, colleges and universities give much weight to the rigor (honors and AP courses) of the student’s curriculum since research has demonstrated that this is the best predictor of future success in college.**

In their freshman year, students should be aware of the admission requirements of colleges they are interested in attending; they may go to their websites or write to them to obtain admission information. Our counselor also has information on many colleges.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

Community service hours are meant to instill in our students their personal call to follow Christ’s command to love their neighbor as themselves, to build up the Mystical Body of Christ, and to live out the parable of the Good Samaritan by helping strangers in need. As service to their neighbor consists of both prayer and action, students will be required to fulfill twelve hours of adoration and ten hours of active service each year. Further information is available through the student advisor.

COURSE OF STUDY OVERVIEW

All high school students will be placed in the same literature, history and theology courses that are offered in each year. Students in the upper grades are expected to perform at a higher level than first- and second-year students, and standards and scales for both levels are documented.

Course availability and offerings are dependent upon student requirements and interest. The academy reserves the right to change, alter or amend the offerings and curriculum whenever such changes are deemed necessary.

THEOLOGY
4 credits

TH01: Sacred Scriptures Honors
TH02: Dogmatic Theology Honors
TH03: Moral Theology and Ethics Honors
TH04: Apologetics Honors

ENGLISH
4 credits

EN01: Grammar and Composition I
LIT01: Ancient/Medieval Literature Honors
LIT02: Continental Literature Honors
LIT03: Advanced American Literature (AP Eng. Language & Comp.)
LIT04: Advanced British Literature (AP English Literature & Composition)

*All literature courses include instruction in grammar, vocabulary, composition and literary analysis.

HISTORY
4 credits

HI01: Ancient/Medieval History Honors
HI02: Advanced European History (AP European History)
HI03: Advanced U.S. History (AP U.S. History)
HI04: Advanced U.S. Government, Politics & Economics (AP U.S. Government & Politics)

MATHEMATICS 4 credits	MA01: Algebra I Honors MA02: Geometry Honors MA03: Algebra II and Trigonometry Honors MA04: Pre-Calculus MA05: Calculus AB MA06: Calculus BC
SCIENCE 4 credits	SC01: Biology Honors SC02: Chemistry Honors SC03: Physics Honors SC04: Advanced Biology (AP Biology) SC05: Advanced Chemistry (AP Chemistry)
LANGUAGES 4 credits	LA01: Latin I FRE01: French I LA02: Latin II FRE02: French II LA03: Latin III FRE03: French III LA04: Latin IV SPA01: Spanish I Honors GER01: German I SPA02: Spanish II Honors GER02: German II SPA03: Spanish III Honors
HEALTH 0.5 credit	HE01: Health
CONSUMER EDUCATION 0.5 credit	CON01: Consumer Economics
PHYSICAL EDUCATION 2 credits (1/2 credit per year)	PE01: Physical Education PE02: Physical Education PE03: Physical Education PE04: Physical Education
Choir 2 credits (½ credit per year)	FA01: Choir FA02: Choir FA03: Choir FA04: Choir
Computer Skills 0.5 credit	COM01: Keyboarding and Document Processing
Study Skills P/F	SS01: Study Skills
Critical Thinking Skills P/F	CTS: Critical Thinking Skills (Daily instruction is provided within a core course.)
Advisory	Meetings provide instruction in organization, research and study skills, along with standardized testing prep and college application information.

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS: 22 hrs. each year (12 of adoration, 10 of active service)

COURSE LEVELS AND AVAILABILITY

Most courses at the Academy are at the honors (more rigorous and in-depth than a standard high-school course) or advanced (introductory college-level) level, and designations are noted on transcripts and grades are weighted accordingly (effective 2008-2009; see Grading System below). Honors courses may offer the same curriculum as regular courses, but cover additional topics or some topics in greater depth, and these standards are clearly stated in the syllabus for those particular courses. Effective 2008-2009, the Academy labels courses advanced once they meet the curricular and resource requirements outlined in the AP Course Audit developed by the College Board (www.apcentral.collegeboard.com) or similar requirements deemed appropriate by the Academy. Requirements for advanced courses are also noted in those particular courses' syllabi.

Depending on course availability, students may take the Advanced Placement (AP) Exam for the following courses: biology, calculus, chemistry, European history, U.S. Government and Politics, U.S. History, English language and composition and English literature. Students who achieve a minimum of a 3 (out of 5) will earn college credit, depending upon the colleges they attend.

With approval, students may also earn credit by taking a class at Rock Valley College.

All courses are designed to challenge the most gifted student while the average and below-average student is still able to succeed and achieve at his highest level. Teachers are able to spend one-on-one time with students to help them in weak areas. Courses may be added or dropped depending on teacher availability, student interest and school facilities.

COURSE CHANGES AND RE-TAKES

The deadline to request course changes will be printed on the student's schedule for the semester. Requests will be considered on an individual basis. Students may re-take a course that they have failed when it is offered again or through an approved institution over the summer.

CREDITS EARNED IN JUNIOR HIGH

Students in the academy's junior high may receive high school credit for Algebra I and Latin I or Latin II if they receive a C or higher. The credit will transfer, but the grade will not be included in the high school GPA.

DIPLOMAS, GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS, SENIOR HONORS AND FINAL EXAMS

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy offers three different diploma types: Scholar's, Honors and Standard. All of the diplomas meet the minimum Illinois graduation requirements for a college-preparatory school. All students must take the honors or advanced courses that the Academy offers. We believe, as does the College Board (designer of AP courses), that all students, not just those testing at a certain percentage on a standardized test, benefit from the rigor of these courses.

When deciding which diploma to pursue, please consider the following: research suggests that students do better in school when they take more challenging courses. A U.S. Department of Education analysis found that high school students who score low on standardized tests improve more by taking college-prep courses than they do by taking general or vocational courses; and ACT Inc. reports that students who have more rigorous high school curricula generally have higher scores. This is reflected in the ACT scores of Illinois' 2009 graduates.

Scholar's Diploma

This course of study is the most challenging, exceeds the requirements for college entrance and includes the following courses: four years of theology, literature, history, science, math, an ancient or modern foreign language (includes two years of Latin); four years (1/2 credit per year) of music and physical education; one semester of consumer education, keyboarding and document processing and health; and four critical thinking skills units.

Honors Diploma

This course of study meets the requirements of most state universities and includes the following courses: four years of theology, literature, and history; three years of a science, math and a language and four years (1/2 credit per year) of music and physical education; one semester of consumer education, keyboarding and document processing and health; and four critical thinking skills units.

Standard Diploma

The Standard Diploma is designed for students who require significant changes to the course of study, or who may not be planning to attend a four-year college immediately after high school. **While the minimum requirements of this diploma do meet the State of Illinois requirements, it is important to note that they may not meet the admissions requirements of many four-year colleges.** To graduate, students must fulfill the following course requirements: four years of theology and literature; three years of history (includes one year of U.S. history or government), mathematics and science and two years of an ancient or modern foreign language; four years (1/2 credit per year) of music and physical education; one semester of consumer education, keyboarding and document processing and health; and four critical thinking skills units.

In addition to fulfilling one of the above diploma requirements, a minimum, overall grade-point average of D (1.00), a passing grade on both the United States and the Illinois constitution tests, and a total of eighty-eight hours (including forty-eight hours of Eucharistic adoration) of community service are required of all students in order to receive a diploma at the Academy. Exceptions to credit requirements are made under special circumstances and for transfer students. Minor requirement changes may be made each year in order to better serve our students.

Senior honors and Final Exam Exemptions

Students with a 4.0 and above Cumulative Grade Point Average (CGPA) graduate summa cum laude. Students with a 3.75-3.99 CGPA graduate magna cum laude. Students with a 3.5-3.74 CGPA graduate cum laude. Senior students who are earning a 4.0 in any course may opt out of that course's final exam.

DAILY SCHEDULE AND CLOSED CAMPUS

The school day consists of five class periods of forty-five minutes each, two class periods of fifty-five minutes each and one lunch period of twenty-five minutes. Students have five minutes of passing time between classes. The day begins at 8:00 a.m. with opening ceremony and morning prayers; lunch period is preceded by the Angelus and Grace, and the day ends with the entire school kneeling to pray five decades of the Rosary. The Academy has a "closed campus" policy which means that students may not leave the campus without permission.

DRIVER AND SAFETY EDUCATION

Students are referred to a state-approved school of driving for driver and safety education lessons.

GRADE POINT AVERAGE

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy uses a traditional college-prep grading scale with Honors and Advanced courses weighted (effective 2008-2009). Achievement marks are given in letters which

correspond to the percents listed below. College courses are graded according to the advanced grading scale.

Currently the academy gives 1 extra grade point for an AP class and .5 for Honors. Unfortunately, there is no consistency in terms of how colleges calculate GPA or assign “honors” credit, or at what grade levels they will accept that credit. Nevertheless,, we do know that colleges and universities want to see students stretch themselves by taking the most rigorous curriculum they are capable of. This is clearly the best predictor of future success in college! Thus, the primary reasons we provide honors or Advanced Placement (AP) courses are for students to learn more--and to stretch themselves, irrespective of the weighted GPA.

The student’s Grade Point Average (GPA) is calculated according to course credit, and is computed by averaging the points earned for a grading period to yield a GPA of between 0.00 and 5.33 (effective 2008-2009).

To calculate your students’ GPA, use the point values below (be sure to distinguish among regular, honors and advanced courses), and add the points earned for each semester course with a .5 credit value. For courses with a .25 semester credit value, divide the core grade point value in half.

Add up the point values for all the courses listed on the grade report, and divide this total by the total credits of the courses.

The reported letter grade will appear on the transcript; however, the weighted grade points will be used to calculate the GPA.

A student’s cumulative GPA is calculated by adding each semester’s GPA and dividing by the number of semesters a student has been enrolled. Because of our small class size, the Academy does not report class rank. Student achievement is reflected in the grade point average. Grades received at other high schools, academies and home-schooling programs will not be factored into the GPA computation.

Grading Scale:

Grade	Percentage	Regular	Honors	Advanced	*RVC	Percentage
A+	98-100	4.33	4.83	5.33	5.33	90-100
A	95-97	4.00	4.50	5.00		
A-	93-94	3.67	4.17	4.67		
B+	90-92	3.33	3.83	4.33	4.33	80-89
B	87-89	3.00	3.50	4.00		
B-	85-86	2.67	3.17	3.67		
C+	80-84	2.33	2.83	3.33	3.33	70-79
C	75-79	2.00	2.50	3.00		
C-	70-74	1.67	2.17	2.67		
D+	68-69	1.33	1.83	2.33	2.33	60-69
D	63-67	1.00	1.50	2.00		
D-	60-62	.67	1.17	1.67		
F	59 or below	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	59 & below

*Rock Valley College

An “A” is defined as excellent: the student accomplishes the objectives of the course, and demonstrates a very thorough knowledge and understanding of the course content and skills. The student contributes to a positive classroom experience, and he is very well prepared for the next level.

A “B” is defined as above average: the student accomplishes the objectives of the course, and demonstrates a thorough knowledge and understanding of the course content and skills. The student contributes positively in the classroom, and he is well prepared for the next level.

A “C” is defined as average: the student accomplishes the objectives of the course, and demonstrates a satisfactory knowledge and understanding of the course content and skills. The student cooperates and contributes in class, and he is prepared for the next level.

A “D” is defined as below average, but passing: the student does not meet all of the objectives of the course and demonstrates a limited knowledge and understanding of the course content and skills. The student may not be prepared for the next level.

A “D-“ is generally for students who try but are not capable of doing better.

An “F” is defined as failing: the student does not meet the course objectives, and his knowledge and understanding of the course content and skills are at an unacceptable level. The student is not prepared for the next level.

Other notations that may appear on high-school student transcripts are: I, WP, WF, HP, P and LP. “I” signifies incomplete work due to illness or other grave reasons as determined by the principal. “WP” signifies the withdrawal from a course with the approval of the principal after consulting with the course instructor. “WF” signifies the withdrawal from a course at a time when the student’s work is below a 60. “HP” signifies High Pass in select courses that do not use the standard grade notations; “P” signifies Pass and “LP” signifies Low Pass.

GRADING SYSTEM FOR QUARTERS AND SEMESTERS

Quarter grades are based on 1/3 daily work (assignments, quizzes, participation), 1/3 tests and 1/3 quarter test (in the event that there is no quarter test, the two grades are averaged).

Semester grades are determined by averaging the percentage grade of the first or third quarter (40%), second or fourth quarter (40%) and the semester test (20%). In courses that don’t have a semester exam, the two quarter grades are averaged.

GUIDANCE PROGRAM, ACADEMIC AND COLLEGE

Each student will meet with a counselor prior to the beginning of his freshman year (or in his first year at the Academy, if a transfer student) to ensure that his course of study builds on his previous courses and meets the requirements of the Academy; to discuss academic concerns, personal interests and college goals; and to provide him with information and guidance about the Academy’s community service hours program. All freshman students will receive instruction in study skills, and their academic progress will be closely monitored throughout the year.

Students will receive assistance in college major and career discernment, college planning and selection, test-taking preparation, college application completion and financial aid and scholarship procurement. Each student will be assigned a counselor beginning in the freshman year, and will meet with his counselor once prior to the start of the school year and once each quarter. Although college and career discernment begins in the freshman year and continues throughout the sophomore year (primarily through

participation in community service hours and taking the PSAT), the college guidance program is particularly focused on juniors and seniors.

The mission, philosophy, goal and objectives of the Academy are founded on the Catholic faith. Our liberal-arts-based education and the objectives of the Academy also reflect a deep respect for our treasured heritage of Western civilization, the principles on which our nation was founded and the good purposes of our Founding Fathers. We are decidedly conservative, and we believe that a liberal-arts college education best prepares students for their future.

Given all these commitments, and because fewer than ten percent of the 224 “Catholic” colleges and universities in the United States have complied with *Ex Corde Ecclesiae* (Pope John Paul II’s call for Catholic colleges and universities to renew their commitment to the doctrinal teachings and intellectual traditions of the Church), the Academy takes seriously its responsibility to inform our students about the colleges and universities that strive to provide a true Catholic education, and those non-Catholic institutions that pass on a conservative, classical philosophy. The guidance program provides resources to help our students find colleges that are committed to the Catholic faith, and non-Catholic conservative colleges and universities committed to forming virtuous leaders.

HEALTH EXAMS, IMMUNIZATIONS AND EXEMPTIONS

Illinois State law requires all students entering ninth grade to present proof of having had a complete physical examination within one month of the first day of school. Failure to complete a physical examination and present proof to the Academy will cause a student to be withheld from attending school until it has been completed. All students must also present evidence of proper immunizations, and have proof of this information in their official files.

Medical exemptions from immunization require a physician’s or clinic’s note indicating the date(s) to complete the doses, or a statement from a licensed physician indicating the medical condition that precludes the child from receiving the required immunizations.

A religious exemption requires that the parent or legal guardian submit a written and signed statement to the Principal, detailing the belief that conflicts with immunizations.

HONOR ROLL

OLSHA recognizes the students’ academic excellence at the conclusion of each grading period. It is published four times a year, and is based upon the marks in all subjects in each quarter.

Senior-high students with a 4.00 GPA or above achieve Honors with Distinction; students with a 3.80 GPA or above achieve Superior Honors; students with a GPA of 3.40 or above achieve First Honors; and students with a GPA of 3.00 or above achieve Second Honors. Names of senior high honor roll students will be submitted to the local paper for publication.

IHSA (ILLINOIS HIGH SCHOOL ASSOCIATION)

The Academy is a member of the Illinois High School Association.

INTERSCHOLASTIC ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible to participate in sports or activities, a student must maintain a 2.0 G.P.A. This will not apply to transfer students for their first quarter of attendance.

NCAA (NATIONAL COLLEGIATE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION) Freshman Eligibility

Standards

The Academy complies with NCAA guidelines, and all of our core courses are NCAA-approved.

Core Courses

NCAA Division I requires 16 core courses as of August 1, 2008. This rule applies to any student first entering any Division I college or university on or after August 1, 2008. See the chart below for the breakdown of this 16 core-course requirement.

NCAA Division II requires 14 core courses. See the breakdown of core-course requirements below. Please note that Division II will require 16 core courses beginning August 1, 2013.

Test Scores

Division I has a sliding scale for test score and grade-point average. The sliding scale for those requirements is shown below.

Division II has a minimum SAT score requirement of 820 or an ACT sum score of 68.

The SAT score used for NCAA purposes includes **only** the critical reading and math sections. The writing section of the SAT is not used. The ACT score used for NCAA purposes is a **sum** of the four sections on the ACT: English, mathematics, reading and science.

All SAT and ACT scores must be reported directly to the NCAA Eligibility Center by the testing agency. Test scores that appear on transcripts will not be used. When registering for the SAT or ACT, use the Eligibility Center code of 9999 to make sure the score is reported to the Eligibility Center.

Grade-Point Average

Only core courses are used in the calculation of the NCAA grade-point average.

Please see www.NCAA.org for the NCAA DIVISION I SLIDING SCALE CORE GRADE-POINT AVERAGE/ TEST-SCORE New Core GPA / Test Score Index.

For more information regarding the rules, please go to www.NCAA.org. Click on “Academics and Athletes” then “Eligibility and Recruiting.” Or visit the Eligibility Center Web site at www.eligibilitycenter.org.

RECOGNITION AND SCHOLARSHIPS, STATE AND NATIONAL

AP SCHOLAR AWARDS

The AP Program offers several AP Scholar Awards to recognize high school students who have demonstrated college-level achievement through AP courses and exams. Although there is no monetary award, in addition to receiving an award certificate, this achievement is acknowledged on any AP Score Report that is sent to colleges the following fall. For more information go to the College Board’s website at <http://www.collegeboard.com/student/testing/ap/scholarawards.html>.

AP Award Levels

AP Scholar: Granted to students who receive scores of 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

AP Scholar with Honor: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

AP Scholar with Distinction: Granted to students who receive an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 3 or higher on five or more of these exams.

State AP Scholar: Granted to the one male and one female student in each U.S. state and the District of Columbia with scores of 3 or higher on the greatest number of AP Exams, and then the highest average score (at least 3.5) on all AP Exams taken.

National AP Scholar: Granted to students in the United States who receive an average score of at least 4 on all AP Exams taken, **and** scores of 4 or higher on eight or more of these exams

ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLAR RECOGNITION

The State Scholar Program recognizes students attending approved high schools (Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy is an approved school) for outstanding academic achievement. This prestigious award is given annually by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC). State Scholar designation provides honorary recognition with no monetary award. Approximately the top ten percent of graduates from approved high schools are announced as State Scholars each year.

Eligibility

To be eligible, you must:

- Be a [U.S. citizen or an eligible non-citizen](#)
- Be a [resident of Illinois](#)
- Attend an [approved high school](#)
- Take the [ACT](#), [SAT](#) or [Prairie State Achievement Exam](#) between September 1 and June 30 (by the end of the third semester before high school graduation*)
- Perform in the top one-half of your high school class at the end of the third semester prior to graduation,* and/or score in the 95th percentile on the ACT, SAT or Prairie State Achievement Exam
- Graduate from high school during the academic year in which you were selected as a State Scholar

**(typically the end of your junior year in high school)*

Students attending Illinois public high schools, who meet all [eligibility requirements](#), will be considered for the State Scholar Program.

Selection and Notification Process

- There is no application to complete for the State Scholar Program; standardized test scores and performance-based academic data reported by your high school are used to determine if you are eligible.

- ISAC receives your ACT, SAT and/or Prairie State Achievement Exam scores from each test's service, provided that you indicate Illinois residency and take the exam during the required timeframe.
- Your high school counselor submits information to ISAC for the selection process
- Your high school then receives a Certificate of Achievement for each State Scholar at that school
- If you are named a State Scholar, you will receive a congratulatory letter from ISAC

While the prestigious recognition does not include a monetary award, recipients are encouraged to cite the award on applications for college admission and scholarships in addition to completing the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) after January 1 to determine eligibility for federal and state aid, including Illinois' \$400 million need-based Monetary Award Program (MAP). See www.collegezone.com for further information.

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

The academy is a member of the National Honor Society. The purpose of the National Honor Society is to recognize and reward enthusiasm for scholarship, development of character, promotion of leadership and rendering of service for students of secondary schools. Membership is a prestigious honor bestowed upon a student. Candidates will be invited to apply if they meet the criteria of the organization, including having a cumulative grade point average of 3.250 and exhibiting outstanding character, leadership and service, as well as scholarship. Candidates complete a student activity information form. Any faculty member may offer input. Candidates receiving a majority vote of the faculty and/or appointed faculty representative committee are inducted into the N.H.S. Once selected, members have the responsibility to continue to demonstrate the qualities of scholarship, character, leadership and service. Further information is available through the student advisor.

NMSP (NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM)

The National Merit Scholarship Program is an academic competition for recognition and scholarships that began in 1955. High school students enter the National Merit Program by taking the Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test ([PSAT/NMSQT](#)[®])—a test which serves as an initial screen of approximately 1.5 million entrants each year—and by meeting published program entry/participation requirements.

Of the 1.5 million entrants, some 50,000 with the highest [PSAT/NMSQT](#)[®] Selection Index scores (critical reading + mathematics + writing skills scores) qualify for recognition in the National Merit[®] Scholarship Program. In late September, more than two-thirds or about 34,000 of the approximately 50,000 high scorers on the [PSAT/NMSQT](#)[®] receive Letters of Commendation in recognition of their outstanding academic promise. Approximately 8,200 finalists are selected to receive one of three types of Merit Scholarship awards. See www.nationalmerit.org for more information.

TESTING

Our standardized testing program is designed to prepare students to perform well on both of the college entrance exams, the ACT and SAT, and it provides diagnostic information vital to the evaluation of our academic program.

The ACT's **EPAS[®] Educational Planning and Assessment System** provides a longitudinal, systematic approach to educational and career planning, assessment, instructional support and evaluation. The system focuses on the integrated, higher-order thinking skills students develop in grades K-12 that are important for success both during and after high school.

In the ninth grade, all students take the EXPLORE test which measures student achievement and explores a broad range of options for their future. Sophomores take both the PLAN test (ACT prep) and the PSAT (this is taken to better prepare students for the junior-year PSAT; scores received in the junior year may qualify students for the National Merit Scholarship program). The PSAT is taken in October, by sophomores and juniors. We recommend that all students take the ACT and SAT at least once in the spring of their junior year. This will allow time to retake the tests in the senior year if the scores obtained were less than desired. Fees for the PSAT, SAT and ACT Exams will be paid by the student's family. OLSHA is not a center for ACT or SAT testing. Please see your counselor for the Academy's school codes for the ACT and SAT.

TRANSCRIPTS

A cumulative record of semester grades in all courses, the grade point average (GPA), a report of major test scores (PSAT, SAT, ACT, CAT), a record of daily attendance over the entire four years and a profile of the Academy make up the student's official transcript.

DEPARTMENT AND COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

THEOLOGY

Students are equipped with the knowledge to understand and defend the Catholic faith through the required four-year study of theology, the "queen" of the sciences. A comprehensive study of Sacred Scriptures provides the foundation for the remaining three years of our program. The course in Catholic doctrine presents a fundamental examination of the dogmas of the Faith and an unambiguous explanation for each of those dogmas. The course in Catholic morality includes a semester focused on the social teachings of the Church, and ensures that students leave with a crystal-clear understanding of what Catholics are permitted to believe and practice, if they wish to remain in communion with the Church. The capstone course, apologetics, completes our theology program; it provides our students, members of the Church Militant, with the necessary tools to defend Sacred Tradition, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Sacraments, the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Divine Son. (It's worth noting that the groundwork of apologetics is laid in the junior high, where students are required to assemble defenses against some of the usual attacks against the Faith from atheists and Protestants.)

Our courses and teachers present the immutable truths of the Catholic faith in loyalty to the Holy Father and the Magisterium of the Church, and we strive to foster a desire for personal sanctity through our culture of prayer, adoration of the Eucharist, devotion to Our Blessed Mother and the example of the saints. Students also learn the rubrics of and worship in the extraordinary form of the liturgy.

THE01 SACRED SCRIPTURES HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full Year

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

Students are introduced to the Sacred Scriptures and the Church's teaching on Divine Revelation; Biblical inspiration and inerrancy; the four senses of Sacred Scripture; the purpose and canon of the Sacred Scriptures; and the interpretation of the Sacred Scriptures. In the first semester, students will examine the following in the Old Testament: Genesis; Exodus; Josue; Judges; Kings I, II, III, IV; the Prophets Isaias, Amos, Osee and Daniel. In the second semester, students will study the New Testament; this study will include a fundamental examination of the following: historicity of the gospels; synoptic gospels; the Gospel of John; Acts of the Apostles; the Pauline Epistles; the Catholic Epistles and the Apocalypse of St. John the Evangelist.

THE02 DOGMATIC THEOLOGY HONORS

Credit: 1- Full Year

Required: Grade 10

Prerequisite: None

An unambiguous, comprehensive and persuasive exposition of the deposit of Faith is covered in the second-year theology course. The same material as parts one and two of the *Catechism of the Catholic Church*, namely the Creed and the Sacraments, are fully explained, with a focus on the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass and the Source and Summit of our Faith, the Eucharist. The orthodox text used in this course will leave a lasting impression on the students, providing them with the support and knowledge to sustain them in the Faith for a lifetime. Students will know the Catholic religion, and the reasons for it.

THE03 MORAL THEOLOGY & SOCIAL TEACHINGS HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full Year

Required: Grade 11

Prerequisite: None

The first-semester course presents an authentic and systematic Thomistic analysis of the Moral Act, and a fundamental examination of Saint Thomas Aquinas' teaching on the structure of the human soul, human action and its obstacles, imputability, voluntariness, determinants of the moral act, beatitude, the ultimate end of man, conscience, law, virtue, vice, temptation, mortal sin, venial sin, the capital sins, and the principles of epikeia and double effect. The second-semester course presents the social teachings of the Catholic Church and an analysis of controversial issues in contemporary moral theory discussed during the first semester. The moral law, due authority and the common good are the starting points for students to learn how to apply their Catholic beliefs to the social and political questions of the day. The protection of innocent life, human cloning, abortion, euthanasia, capital punishment, the theology of the just war, divorce, contraception, man's stewardship over nature, subsidiarity, and private ownership and common use are some of the topics that are covered. Liberal and secular ideologies are refuted while students learn to ably defend Catholic social teachings.

THE04 APOLOGETICS HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 12

Prerequisite: None

This course is designed for a day in which many faulty philosophies and theological heresies are attacking the Catholic Church. It is imperative that the Catholic high-school student, a member of the Church Militant, be prepared to defend Sacred Tradition, the Holy Sacrifice of the Mass, the Sacraments, the Church, the Blessed Virgin Mary and her Divine Son. Natural, Christian and Catholic Apologetics are covered. Topics to be examined and discussed from an authentic Catholic perspective are liberalism, Modernism, indifferentism, sedevacantism, Protestantism, Freemasonry, atheistic Communism, *extra Ecclesiam nulla salus*, ecumenism, *Humanae Vitae*, the dangers of the New Age Movement, the just war doctrine, the ordination of women to the priesthood, the theology of Limbo, human cloning, *The DaVinci Code* and capital punishment.

ENGLISH/LITERATURE

An understanding and appreciation of our Catholic literary heritage and of the classics which encapsulate the enduring principles of Western civilization form the core of the Academy's literature curriculum. Students read the prose and poetry that formed many of the saints and instructed our Founding Fathers; these books lead the students to a knowledge of the good, the true and the beautiful, and thereby to God. Concurrent history and literature courses allow students to make connections between the historical context and the literature studied. Students are required to take four years of literature.

Throughout all of these courses students will receive intensive instruction in composition and verbal skills, and will complete extensive practice in writing. Our writing program prepares students for college-level writing and for success on Advanced Placement tests. Students take the Advanced Placement tests

for English language and composition and English literature and composition. All literature courses are fifty-five minutes, five days a week.

Unlike secular grammar and composition texts whose content emphasizes materialism and relativism, our Christian program provides exercises with Christian and character-building principles. Students will gain valuable apologetics tools through these courses as they learn to refute Protestant errors and heresies that they encounter in the text. Errors are noted in the teacher's syllabus and text, and he clearly explains the authentic Catholic response when necessary.

EN01 GRAMMAR AND COMPOSITION

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

This comprehensive course covers the fundamentals of grammar and composition, and is designed to develop in students the skills necessary for competency in the writing program at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Academy. Students master grammar and develop the ability to think analytically and to write clearly and effectively. Students may test out of this course.

LIT01 ANCIENT/MEDIEVAL LITERATURE HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

Classic works from 3100 B.C. through 1300 A.D. introduce students to the foundational works of Western civilization. The works studied closely correspond with the topics covered in the ancient-medieval history course, and students are expected to make connections between the major historical events, people, places and intellectual trends of the era studied. This course includes a comprehensive study of the fundamentals of literary analysis, and language and grammar through composition and expository writing. Students must complete assigned summer reading before their return to school in August.

LIT02 CONTINENTAL LITERATURE HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 10

Prerequisite: None

The second year of the literature program focuses on a critical reading, examination and interpretation of the diverse literary genres of the non-English European world from 1300 through modern times. Students will recognize and appreciate the literary excellence inherent within masterpieces of world literature, and explain connections between the historical context and the literature studied. Literary analysis based on plot, setting, characters, conflict, point of view, diction, artistic devices and themes is the primary focus. Authors studied include Snorri, Dante, Ronsard, Racine, Cervantes, Goethe, Pushkin, Tolstoy, Dostoevsky, Rostand, Solzhenitsyn, John of the Cross and Teresa of Avila. Our intensive writing program continues to improve students' writing skills through critical essays and compositions. Students must complete assigned summer reading before their return to school in August.

LIT03 ADVANCED AMERICAN LITERATURE

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 11

Prerequisite: None

This is a literature, writing and rhetoric course focusing on the critical analysis of diverse American literary works from the colonial period through the 20th century. Reading selections are representative of multiple genres (poems, novels, sketches, short stories and drama). Authors such as Hawthorne, Irving, Bryant, Longfellow, Whitman, Poe, Twain, Eliot, Ryan, Kilmer, O. Henry and Feeney will be studied. Our intensive writing program continues to develop strong writers. Students must complete

assigned summer reading before their return to school in August. Prep for the AP English Language and Composition exam.

LIT04 ADV BRITISH LITERATURE (AP English Literature & Composition) Required: Grade 12
Credit: 1 - Full year Prerequisite: None

A critical reading, examination and interpretation of the diverse literary genres of British literature throughout the ages complete the Academy's literature program. Students continue to identify and explain connections between the historical context and literature studied. This literature and writing course focuses on the critical analysis of literature and the writing of critical essays. Our intensive writing program continues to develop strong writers, and frequent writing assignments, both in-class timed essays and writing at home, prepares students for college-level literature courses, and to take the advanced placement English Literature and Composition exam. Works and authors studied include *Beowulf*, *Sir Gawain and the Green Knight*, Chaucer, Shakespeare, the seventeenth-century "silver" poets, Austen, Dickens, George, Belloc, Eliot, Chesterton and C.S. Lewis. Students must complete assigned reading before their return to school in August.

HISTORY

"It is the fundamental affirmation of Christianity that God entered history as Jesus Christ."¹ It is from this Incarnational perspective that all history is taught at the Academy. Our Christ-centered view of history also includes a deep respect for our heritage of Western civilization, along with a desire to develop in students a knowledge and appreciation of our American heritage, including its republican form of government, and to foster loyalty to American ideals. Students are required to take the following courses: Ancient/Medieval History Honors, Advanced European History, Advanced U.S. History and Advanced U.S. Government, Politics and Economics. Students gain insight as to why Christendom has all but disappeared in today's post-modern society. The causative figures, ideas and events that contributed to the change from a Christian worldview to our secular, relativist and materialist society are explored.

HI01 ANCIENT/MEDIEVAL HISTORY HONORS Required: Grade 9
Credit: 1 - Full year Prerequisite: None

This course traces, from a Catholic perspective, the development of western civilization from the period of pre-history through A.D. 1300 with the Incarnation presented as the focal point, and with an emphasis on the founding, building and glory of Christendom. Students are introduced to historical content, chronology, analysis and synthesis. The course is designed to develop students' critical faculties, and to improve their ability to recognize, interpret, construct and defend historical arguments. Intellectual, cultural, political, diplomatic, religious, and social and economic aspects of the histories of ancient civilizations, the classical world of Greece and Rome, and Europe in the early middle ages are covered. Analysis of historical evidence, including primary and secondary sources, and interpretation includes instruction on how to approach evidence and how to understand its bias, point of view and reliability. Students synthesize their findings and express historical understanding in frequent essays which follow a structured format. Students will make comparisons, recognize changes, and trace continuities to our modern era.

¹ Carroll, Warren H. *The Founding of Christendom: A History of Christendom, Vol. 1*. Front Royal: Christendom College Press, 1985: back cover.

HI02 ADVANCED EUROPEAN HISTORY (AP European History)

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 10

Prerequisite: None

This course traces, from a Catholic perspective, European history from A.D. 1300 through modern times with an emphasis on the glory of, cleaving of and revolution against Christendom. Students continue to develop an understanding of historical content, chronology, analysis and synthesis. This course is designed to develop students' critical faculties, and to improve their ability to recognize, interpret, construct and defend historical arguments. Intellectual, cultural, political, diplomatic, religious, and social and economic aspects of history are covered. Analysis of historical evidence, including primary and secondary sources, and interpretation includes instruction on how to approach evidence and how to understand its bias, point of view and reliability. Students synthesize their findings and express historical understanding in frequent essays which follow a structured format. Students will make comparisons, recognize changes, and trace continuities to our modern era. Students are prepared for the AP European History exam in the spring.

HI03 ADVANCED U.S. HISTORY

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 11

Prerequisite: None

The real American Revolution was one of ideas, principally the American understanding of rights. This course examines the narrative of American history from the explorers to modern times, including the role and contributions of the Catholic Church, and with particular attention to the uniquely American understanding of rights and duties. The American Revolution did not wish to change human nature; on the contrary, the natural rights Americans fought to defend were rooted in an understanding of unchanging human nature. Granted by God and secured by government, rights are accorded not because of one's status as an Englishman, but rather because each person is a human being created by God. The course asks what it means to be an American. In answering that question, it seeks to provide a better understanding of the meaning of the "self-evident" truths on which this nation was founded. Students gain a clear understanding of Catholic social teachings in this course. Prep for the AP United States History exam.

HI04 ADV U.S. GOVERNMENT, POLITICS & ECONOMICS (AP U.S. Government & Politics)

Credit: 1 – Full year

Required: Grade 12

Prerequisite: None

An inquiry into the importance of American liberty and order, this course explores the foundations of republican government and the intentions of our Founding Fathers. The documents studied make clear to students the very nature of federalism, and understanding its nature allows them to make sound judgments about our government today and how to decide on issues that affect how our government operates. The course considers the rights and responsibilities of citizenship and explores the fundamental principles of a free economy. It seeks, in sum, to instill in students the proper spirit of patriotism upon which self-government depends, and to ensure a proper understanding of our Constitution in the light of Catholic social teaching found in *Quadragesimo Anno* (e.g., the right to own property, just wages, free competition, etc.). Teachings of Thomas Aquinas in the *Summa* are also studied. Prep for the AP United States Government and Politics exam.

MATHEMATICS

The Academy provides students a solid and rigorous foundation in precollegiate-level mathematics, and prepares them, if desired, for the Advanced Placement calculus exams. Mathematics trains students to think abstractly and develops logic skills, and is unsurpassed in its demands for clarity of thought. The study of the patterns and order in mathematics reveals the same in the universe, leading students to recognize the undeniable truth of a Grand Mathematician (Supreme Being). All students are required to take four years of mathematics.

MA01 ALGEBRA I HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

This course covers arithmetic and evaluation of expressions involving signed numbers, exponents and roots; solution of equations in one unknown; algebraic word problems; graphs of various functions (linear, quadratic, cubic, square root, absolute value); solution of quadratic equations by factoring, completing the square and applying the quadratic formula; computation of the surface area and volume of geometric solids; statistics; and more. Incorporation of concepts in real-life situations and across subjects ensures true comprehension. At the end of this course, students are expected to be able to handle new kinds of questions by applying the concepts and skills they have cemented.

MA02 GEOMETRY HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9 or 10

Prerequisite: MA01 with a final grade of a D or better

The topics covered in this course include sets, subsets and set operations; terms and definitions; deductive structure and statements of logic; concepts and proofs; triangles, lines, polygons; Pythagorean Theorem and introduction to trigonometry; circles; coordinate geometry; areas and volume; and constructions. This course helps students to appreciate the power of logic as a tool for understanding the world around them, and makes connections to other disciplines and applications which provide resources for relating math to students' everyday lives.

MA03 ALGEBRA II & TRIGONOMETRY HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 10 or 11

Prerequisite: MA02 with a final grade of a D or better

The topics covered in this course include models, functions and permutations; linear relationships and functions; matrices; linear systems; quadratic equations and functions; polynomials and polynomial functions; exponential and logarithmic functions; rational functions; periodic functions and trigonometry; quadratic relations; more probability and statistics; and sequences and series. In addition to teaching the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in calculus and in disciplines that are mathematically based (e.g., chemistry and physics), this course also requires students to work on problem-solving skills and to develop productive thought patterns. Connections to other disciplines and school-to-work applications provide resources for relating math to students' everyday lives.

MA04 PRECALCULUS

Credit: 1 or 2 - One or two full year (s)

Required or Elective: Grade 11 or 12
Prerequisite: MA03 with a final grade of a D or better

The topics covered in this course include a review of algebra and an in-depth presentation of trigonometry, logarithms, analytic geometry and upper-level algebraic concepts. The study of geometry begun in Algebra I is also completed. In addition to teaching the concepts and skills necessary to succeed in calculus and in disciplines that are mathematically based (e.g., chemistry and physics), this course also requires students to work on problem-solving skills and to develop productive thought patterns. Students with good mathematical aptitudes will cover one lesson per class and thus the majority of the material in the text in one school year. Some students, however, may need two classes to cover each lesson, and thus require two school years to cover the same material.

MA05 CALCULUS AB

Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective: Grade 12
Prerequisite: MA04 with a final grade of a B- or better

This course presents and develops the concepts, methods and skills of calculus, with trigonometry and analytic geometry. It emphasizes problem solving and analytical thinking. The course begins with the study of the rate of change of functions, then studies derivatives and their applications, integration and applications of definite integrals, the calculus of transcendental functions (trigonometric, inverse trigonometric, exponential and logarithmic) and the techniques of integration. All topics in the Advanced Placement Calculus AB are covered in this course. Prep for the AP Calculus AB exam.

MA05 CALCULUS BC

Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective: Grade 12
Prerequisite: MA05 with a final grade of a B- or better

This course presents and develops the concepts, methods and skills of calculus, with trigonometry and analytic geometry. It emphasizes problem solving and analytical thinking. The course reviews the study of the rate of change of functions, then studies derivatives and their applications, integration and applications of definite integrals, the calculus of transcendental functions (trigonometric, inverse trigonometric, exponential and logarithmic) and the techniques of integration. All topics in the Advanced Placement Calculus BC syllabi are covered in this course. Prep for the AP Calculus BC exam.

SCIENCE

The Academy's four-year science program, through both lecture and laboratory, provides students a strong foundation in the hard sciences that leads them to think clearly and logically, and prepares them for college-level scientific studies. Students recognize that all events and phenomena operate according to general laws of nature, and the marvelous design and unity in the universe lead them to the logical conclusion, from the evidence of all natural scientific laws, of the necessary existence of a Law Giver (Supreme Being). Training in scientific inquiry teaches students to be systematic, objective and exact in their thoughts, while encouraging them to analyze problems carefully, scrutinize evidence, recognize shoddy arguments and distinguish important facts. Biology, chemistry, physics are required courses. Advanced biology, chemistry or physics are electives. The Academy reserves the right to determine which courses are offered each year. If advanced courses are offered, students are required to take the corresponding AP exam (exceptions are made on an individual basis). The mathematics and science curricula are coordinated in order to prepare students mathematically for each stage of science study. Mathematical skills are reinforced in science classes.

Throughout all the courses, the immutable truths of the Catholic Church and its belief in the sanctity of life from conception until natural death are affirmed. All theories of atheistic evolution, the theory of limiting family size to avoid overpopulation and damage to the ecosystem, and the fundamentalist belief that Genesis must be interpreted in an exclusively literal sense are refuted.

SC01 BIOLOGY HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

The first course in the high school science program provides a survey of all aspects of life science including cell biology; classification; animal and plant maintenance, reproduction and development; genetics; theories of evolution; the unity and diversity of living things and ecology. Students are equipped with the knowledge to refute all theories of atheistic evolution.

SC02 CHEMISTRY HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 10

Prerequisite: MA02 final grade of D or better; or current enrollment in MA02 Geometry

The purpose of the chemistry course is to understand the nature of matter, the changes matter undergoes and the factors important in those changes. Initially, emphasis is placed on reaction predictions, equation writing and stoichiometry. The study of atomic and molecular structure leads to further understanding of chemical reactions. The year culminates with studies of reaction rates, kinetics, thermodynamics and organic chemistry—topics essential to the application of chemistry.

SC03 PHYSICS HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 11

Prerequisite: MA03 Algebra II final grade of D or better

This course is designed to introduce physics to a wide range of students engaging in a first-year curriculum. Students are provided a unique balance of conceptual development and mathematical applications, covering mechanics, properties of matter, waves, electricity and magnetism and modern physics.

SC04 ADVANCED BIOLOGY

Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective: Grade 12

Prerequisite: SC01, SC02 and SC03

Advanced biology takes advantage of the maturity of the students and delves into the complexities of living organisms. In particular, the molecular basis of life is emphasized. Study begins with an organic chemistry review, which naturally leads to the topics of biochemistry, the molecular components of cells and the molecular basis of genetic inheritance. Equipped with a solid foundation in physics and chemistry, students are well prepared to grasp these more advanced, but vital, principles of biology. The final semester of the course is spent revisiting areas of biology introduced in the ninth grade: evolution, organismal diversity and the structure and function of plants and animals. Students find they approach these familiar topics with a deeper understanding and are able to explore them more extensively. Prep for the AP Biology exam.

SC05 ADVANCED CHEMISTRY

Credit 1 – Full year

Elective: Grade 12

Prerequisite: SC01, SC02 and SC03

Students build on their general chemistry experience from their sophomore year, as well as their increasing sophistication in science and math, to explore fundamental concepts not covered in the general chemistry course such as thermochemistry, electrochemistry, equilibrium, modern atomic theory and organic and nuclear chemistry, which are central to acquiring a deeper understanding and application of chemistry. The course is highly quantitative with an emphasis on chemical calculations and mathematical formulation and is focused around a substantial, project-based laboratory component. Prep for the AP Chemistry exam.

ANCIENT AND MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

All students are required to take four years of ancient and modern foreign languages, including a minimum of one year of Latin. Consistent with our mission and philosophy, the Academy offers and encourages students to take four years of Latin, the perennial tongue of Western civilization and of Holy Mother Church. The first two years focus on grammar, vocabulary and basic translation. The final two years are concerned with reading and translating Latin; students in Latin IV will be prepared for the Advanced Placement exam. Academy eighth-grade graduates will have completed their two years of Latin. Students who choose not to complete four years of Latin must take Spanish, French or German for the remaining two or three years of study.

LA01 LATIN I

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

This course introduces students to the Latin language, the perennial tongue of Western civilization and of Holy Mother Church. The course focuses on mastery of grammar, with an emphasis on inflection and syntax. Students master the declension of nouns and adjectives, the conjugation of regular verbs in the present, imperfect, future, perfect, pluperfect and future perfect; they begin study of the passive voice. They learn correct ecclesiastical pronunciation, and acquire an active familiarity with the traditional Latin prayers of the Church. This year, students will complete half of the text, Lessons one through twenty-one (Units One through Five), in the required Henle Latin text. Exercises in the text incorporate Christian and classical elements, while teaching Roman and American history. Subject matter includes the virtues of the pagan (Roman) and Christian man, and reveals the difference between their world views and virtues.

LA02 LATIN II

Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 10

Prerequisite: LA01 with a grade of C or better

This course continues the study of the Latin language. After an intensive review of the grammar studied in Lessons 1-21, students will concentrate on verbs as they complete the second half of the Henle text, Lessons twenty-two through forty-two (Units Six through Fourteen). These units complete the mastery of the passive voice, and teach the subjunctive mood, purpose clauses, relative clauses, the imperative mood, the perfect participle passive, -IO verbs, the comparison of adjectives, deponent verbs and the irregular Verbs EO and POSSUM.

LA03 LATIN III
Credit: 1 - Full year

Required: Grade 9 or Elective
Prerequisite: LA02 with a grade of C or better

The backbone of this third-year course consists in intensive linguistic study. Training, not information, is the aim and object. Henle's *Second Year Latin* text is used in this course. As students focus on the translation of Latin prose, they learn about three great leaders: Julius Caesar, Vercingetorix, and Jesus Christ the God-man: our Captain and our King.

LA04 LATIN IV
Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective
Prerequisite: LA03 with a grade of C or better

The final course of the Latin program is taught according to a schedule that will prepare students to take the Advanced Placement exam (Virgil syllabus) in early May. The translation of Virgil's *Aeneid* is the focus of this advanced course. Students who choose not to take the exam need not keep to this ambitious reading schedule and are responsible for a narrower selection of the Latin text.

FR01 FRENCH I
Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective
Prerequisite: LA01 or LA03

This course introduces students to the French language. They learn to apply their knowledge of Latin inflection, agreement and vocabulary to a Latin descendant. A focus on memorization and repetition of paradigms and morphology, daily drills and translations from the text, and accurate pronunciation, ensures students will be able to communicate through classroom dialogues on a very basic level. Students will observe how much culture is embedded in language: the French language will tell them much about the French people, their culture and their customs.

FR02 FRENCH II
Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective
Prerequisite: FR01 with a grade of D or better

The second-year course is designed to complete the study of French structural grammar, including the *passé simple* and the subjunctive, and to bring students to a novice level of oral proficiency where they are beginning to communicate using memorized material; to strengthen their command of spoken and written French using basic structures; and to introduce students to good French poetry.

FR03 FRENCH III
Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective
Prerequisite: FR02 with a grade of D or better

Students will read and discuss great works of French literature, including short poems of Villon and Ronsard, Corneille's *Le Cid*, Racine's *Britannicus* and Rostand's *Cyrano de Bergerac*. Depending on their course through the Academy's literature cycle, they may have read these works in translation; now they will appreciate the music of the originals.

SP01 SPANISH I HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective

Prerequisite: LA01 or LA02

This course introduces students to the Spanish language. A focus on memorization and repetition of paradigms and morphology, daily drills and translations from the text, and accurate pronunciation, ensure students will be able to communicate through classroom dialogues on a very basic level. Cultural comparisons will be made as students learn about the Hispanic culture, customs and people.

SP02 SPANISH II HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective

Prerequisite: SP01 with a grade of D or better

The second-year course is designed to bring students to a novice level of oral proficiency where they are beginning to communicate using memorized material; to strengthen their command of spoken and written Spanish using basic structures; and to introduce students to short stories and dramatic sketches by recognized Hispanic authors.

SP03 SPANISH III HONORS

Credit: 1 - Full year

Elective

Prerequisite: SP02 with a grade of D or better

This course is designed to bring students to the intermediate level of oral proficiency where they are able to create language; to participate in progressively more challenging conversations; and to communicate successfully in basic survival situations. Linguistic skills are improved as students express themselves accurately using the basic structures learned in levels one and two; narrate past, present and future events using the preterite, imperfect and compound past tenses; and to express feelings, opinions and hypotheses using subjunctive and conditional constructions. An appreciation of Spanish literary works will be developed as students improve their reading skills and are encouraged to continue their study of Spanish.

GE01 GERMAN I

Credit: 1 – Full year

Elective

Prerequisite: LA01 or LA 02
for GE01, and GE01 for GE02

Students will speak simple, conversational German and understand and master basic inflection upon the completion of this course. An introduction to the language includes vocabulary and grammatical structures, and information about the country's geography and culture.

GE02 GERMAN II

Credit: 1 – Full year

Elective

Prerequisite: GE01

Students increase their understanding of inflection, their vocabulary and their fluency in speaking the German language while gaining reading and writing skills. Readings, discussions and videos provide information on the cultural, geographical and historical topics.

HEALTH

HE01 HEALTH

Credit: 0.5 - One semester

Required: Grade 11 or 12

Prerequisite: None

The health course addresses young adults' health care issues, and provides information on developing and maintaining personal health while learning about the body systems. As students read about nutrition, growth and development, they learn about the digestive and endocrine systems. The fitness section includes the skeletal, muscular, cardiovascular and respiratory systems; and the mental health section focuses on the nervous system. Information on safety, first aid, drug abuse and interpersonal relationships is also presented. All students will achieve cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification. This course is taught from a Catholic perspective. Although a Protestant text is used, students are provided hand-outs detailing the Catholic social and moral teaching on the following topics: suicide, abortion, contraception, euthanasia, organ donation and substance abuse.

CONSUMER EDUCATION

CON01 CONSUMER ECONOMICS

Credit: 0.5 – One semester

Required: Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

This course empowers students to make sound financial decisions for life. Units covered include: saving and investing; credit and debt; financial responsibility and money management; insurance, risk management and income and careers; and the power of giving. Text: *Foundations in Personal Finance*, Dave Ramsey.

CHOIR

CHOIR I -IV

Credit: 0.5 - Full year

Required: Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Students meet two or three days per week in this course, which teaches the fundamentals of choral singing. Students will sing a variety of genres; however, consistent with our mission, an emphasis is placed on learning the sacred music of the Church: plainchant, homophony and (the glory of the Counter-Reformation) polyphony. Students will have the opportunity to give honor and glory to God as they sing in the extraordinary form of the Mass each month. While the main focus of this course is on developing correct vocal production and sight-singing, and the enjoyment of singing, students will also learn the fundamentals of music theory, basic music history and appreciation.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education is an important component of the Academy's curriculum, and it contributes to the mental well-being and academic success of our students. Students are required to take physical education courses for a minimum of three years at the Academy, and they will engage in various health-promoting activities which can be carried on throughout their lifetimes. Classes provide life-skill fitness-building activities.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION I -IV

Credit: 0.5 - Full year

Required: Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

This course provides students with a Catholic perspective of physical fitness, and with a variety of individual and group opportunities to participate in health-enhancing physical activities.

Students learn basic skills, rules and strategies for both team and individual sports, along with the tools necessary to assess, achieve and maintain a health-enhancing level of personal physical fitness. Each student is required to take the National Fitness Test of the United States of America Fitness Organization at the beginning and at the end of the year.

STUDY SKILLS

Credit: Pass/Fail

Required: Grade 9

Prerequisite: None

Our advisor will meet with students individually or as group in order to provide an opportunity for students to improve academic performance by becoming proficient in their organizational, note-taking, test preparation and time-management skills; to assist freshmen in adjusting to the challenges faced at the high-school level; to discuss the essence of scholarship; and to recognize and manage test anxiety.

KEYBOARDING & DOCUMENT PROCESSING

Credit: 0.5 – one semester

Required: Grade 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Students develop touch control of the keyboard and proper typing techniques, build speed and accuracy, and practice applying their skills to the formatting of reports, letters, memos, tables and other kinds of personal and business communications. Students are introduced to Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint.

CRITICAL THINKING SKILLS

Credit: Pass/Fail

Required: Grades 9-12

Prerequisite: None

Critical thinking is identifying and evaluating evidence to guide decision making. A critical thinker uses in-depth analysis of evidence to make decisions and communicate his beliefs clearly and accurately. On a daily basis, students engage in highly effective verbal and nonverbal reasoning activities to improve their vocabulary, reading, writing, math, logic and figural-spatial skills, as well as their visual and auditory processing. Students develop superior thinking, communication and analytical skills that lead to deeper content learning in all subjects, and success in any assessment.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES

All students have the opportunity to participate in chess, choir, drama, Rosary makers' club, and the school newspaper. All girls in the upper school may participate in the volleyball team. OLSHA is making every effort to offer competitive sports in tennis, golf and boys' basketball.

Clubs:

Yearbook

School Newspaper

Chess Club

Rosary Makers Club

Sports:

Volleyball - girls (JH/SH)

TBD

Revised 8/09/10